

In the Specification:

Page 1, after line 1 and following the title, please insert the following:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/997,579, filed November 29, 2001, entitled VEHICLE INTERIOR MIRROR ASSEMBLY INCLUDING AN ACCESSORY-CONTAINING HOUSING, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/433,467, filed November 4, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,326,613, which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 09/003,966, filed January 7, 1998, by Niall R. Lynam, now U.S. Patent No. 6,250,148, the disclosures of which are hereby incorporated by reference herein.--

Page 3, lines 17-29, please delete the entire paragraph and substitute the following paragraph therefor:

--Referring to the drawings, a vehicle interior mirror system comprises a die cast metal housing 10 (or optionally may be formed from a plastic moulding such as engineering polymeric resin such as a filled nylon or the like) having a front end 12 and a rear end 14, the front end 12 being releasably attached to the interior surface of the vehicle windshield 22 in a manner to be described. The interior of the housing 10 is subdivided by an internal wall 16 into first and second compartments 18, 20 respectively, the first compartment 18 having an opening 18a at the front end of the housing 10 which in use, and as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, faces towards the windshield 22 and the second compartment having an opening 20a on the side of the housing which in use faces towards the vehicle header 24 at the top edge of the windshield. The front end 12 of the housing 10 is releasably attached to the windshield 22 using an annular mounting button, not shown, in the manner described in EP 0 928 723 and US Patent Application Serial No. 09/003,966, entitled "Rain Sensor Mount

for Use in a Vehicle” to Niall R Lynam, now U.S. Patent No. 6,250,148, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.--

Page 7, lines 31 through page 8, line 3, please delete the entire paragraph and substitute the following paragraph therefor:

--Most preferably such microphones provide input to an audio system that transmits and communicates wirelessly with a remote transceiver, preferably in voice recognition mode. Such systems are described in commonly assigned, United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/382,720, filed August 25, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,243,003, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.--

Page 8, lines 11-15, please delete the entire paragraph and substitute the following paragraph therefor:

--The housing may include a variety of information displays such as a PSIR (Passenger Side Inflatable Restraint) display, an SIR (Side-Airbag Inflatable Restraint), compass/temperature display, a tire pressure status display or other desirable displays, such as those described in commonly assigned, United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/244,726, filed February 5, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,172,613, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.--

Page 8, line 16, through page 10, line 5, please delete the partial paragraph and substitute the following partial paragraph therefor:

-- For example, the interior rearview mirror assembly may include a display of the speed limit applicable to the location where the vehicle is travelling. Conventionally, speed limits are posted as a fixed limit (for example, 45 MPH) that is read by the vehicle driver upon passing a sign. As an improvement to this, an information

display (preferably an alphanumeric display and more preferably, a reconfigurable display) can be provided within the vehicle cabin, readable by the driver, that displays the speed limit at whatever location on the road/highway the vehicle actually is at any moment.

For example, existing speed limit signs could be enhanced to include a transmitter that broadcasts a local speed limit signal, such signal being received by an in-vehicle receiver and displayed to the driver. The speed limit signal can be transmitted by a variety of wireless transmission methods, such as radio transmission, and such systems can benefit from wireless transmission protocols and standards, such as the BLUETOOTH low-cost, low-power radio based cable replacement or wireless link based on short-range radio-based technology. Preferably, the in-vehicle receiver is located at and/or the display of local speed limit is displayed at the interior mirror assembly (for example, a speed limit display can be located in a chin or eyebrow portion of the mirror case, such as in the mirror reflector itself, such as in the cover 40, or such as in a pod attached to the interior mirror assembly). More preferably, the actual speed of the vehicle can be displayed simultaneously with and beside the local speed limit in-vehicle display and/or the difference or excess thereto can be displayed. Optionally, the wireless-based speed limit transmission system can actually control the speed at which a subject vehicle travels in a certain location (such as by controlling an engine governor or the like). Thus, a school zone speed limit can be enforced by transmission of a speed-limiting signal into the vehicle. Likewise, different speed limits for the same stretch of highway can be set for different classes of vehicles. The system may also require driver identification and then set individual speed limits for individual drivers reflecting their skill level, age, driving record and the like. Moreover, a global positioning system (GPS) can be used to locate a specific vehicle, calculate its velocity on the highway, verify what the allowed speed limit is at that specific moment on that

specific stretch of highway, transmit that specific speed limit to the vehicle for display (preferably at the interior rearview mirror that the driver constantly looks at as part of the driving task) and optionally alert the driver or retard the driver's ability to exceed the speed limit as deemed appropriate. A short-range, local communication system such as envisaged in the BLUETOOTH protocol finds broad utility in vehicular applications, and particularly where information is to be displayed at the interior mirror assembly, or where a microphone or user-interface (such as buttons to connect/interact with a remote wireless receiver) is to be located at the interior (or exterior) rearview mirror assembly. For example, a train approaching a railway crossing may transmit a wireless signal such as a radio signal (using the BLUETOOTH protocol or another protocol) and that signal may be received by and/or displayed at the interior mirror system (or the exterior sideview mirror assembly). Also, the interior rearview mirror and/or the exterior side view mirrors can function as transceivers/display locations/interface locations for intelligent vehicle highway systems, using protocols such as the BLUETOOTH protocol. Protocols such as BLUETOOTH, as known in the telecommunications art, can facilitate voice/data, voice over data, digital and analogue communication and vehicle/external wireless connectivity, preferably using the interior and/or exterior mirror assemblies as transceiver/display/user-interaction sites. Electronic accessories to achieve the above can be accommodated in housing 10, and/or elsewhere in the interior mirror assembly (such as in the mirror housing). Examples of such electronic accessories include in-vehicle computers, personal organizers/palm computers such as the Palm Pilot™ personal display accessory (PDA), cellular phones and pagers, remote transaction interfaces/systems such as described in commonly assigned, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/057,428, filed April 8, 1999 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,158,655, the disclosure

of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein, automatic toll booth payment systems, GPS systems, e-mail receivers/displays, a videophone, vehicle security systems, digital radio station transmission to the vehicle by wireless communication as an alternate to having an in-vehicle dedicated conventional radio receiver, traffic/weather broadcast to the vehicle, preferably digitally, and audio play and/or video display thereof in the vehicle, most preferably at the interior rearview mirror, highway hazard warning systems and the like.--

Page 16, lines 1-9, please delete the existing Abstract and substitute the following:

--ABSTRACT

A vehicle interior mirror system comprises a housing adapted for releasable mounting to a receiving structure on the interior surface of the windshield of a vehicle. A first electrical component/accessory preferably is included in the housing. A rearview mirror comprising a rearview mirror element attaches to the housing by a pivot joint, the rearview mirror being pivotally adjustable about the housing and the housing remaining fixedly mounted to the interior surface of the windshield of the vehicle while the rearview mirror is being adjusted. The rearview mirror includes a second electrical component/accessory. A removable cover on the housing provides access to at least the first electrical component/accessory in the housing. Preferably, electrical wiring passes through the pivot joint, while the rearview mirror is an electro-optic mirror. Various electrical components/accessories can be housed in the housing that attaches to the windshield, such as a rain sensor, a compass sensor, a headlamp sensor, an antenna, a camera, a microphone, or the like.--

A separate sheet including the revised Abstract is attached.